

House Resolution 15

H-1153

1 Amend House Resolution 15 as follows:

2 1. By striking page 1, line 1, through page 2, line
3 16, and inserting:

4 <A Resolution reaffirming Iowa's commitment to
5 its relationship with Taiwan and supporting Taiwan's
6 efforts to participate in the international community.

7 WHEREAS, the relationship between the Republic
8 of China (Taiwan) and the United States is marked
9 by strong bilateral trade, educational and cultural
10 exchange, and tourism; and

11 WHEREAS, the State of Iowa's ties with Taiwan are
12 demonstrated by its sister-state and sister-city
13 relationships; and

14 WHEREAS, Taiwan shares with the United States
15 and the State of Iowa the common values of freedom,
16 democracy, human rights, and rule of law; and

17 WHEREAS, in 2013 the United States ranked as
18 Taiwan's 3rd largest trading partner and Taiwan ranked
19 as the United States' 12th largest trading partner,
20 with bilateral trade of \$63.6 billion; and

21 WHEREAS, Taiwan has consistently imported between
22 \$2.5 billion and \$3 billion annually worth of United
23 States farm products, and is the 7th largest market for
24 United States agricultural products and the world's 2nd
25 largest buyer per-capita of United States agricultural
26 goods; and

27 WHEREAS, Taiwan and the State of Iowa have enjoyed
28 a long and mutually beneficial trade relationship and
29 anticipate continuing trade growth, with Taiwan ranking
30 as Iowa's 16th largest export destination in 2013; and

31 WHEREAS, \$97.4 million worth of goods from the State
32 of Iowa were shipped to Taiwan in 2013 and comprised,
33 in order, food manufactures, miscellaneous manufactured
34 commodities, chemicals, machinery, paper, and computer
35 and electronic products; and

36 WHEREAS, the State of Iowa hosted a Taiwan
37 Agricultural Goodwill Mission delegation in 2013,
38 reaffirming the cordial relations between Iowa
39 and Taiwan and the ongoing mutual trade benefits
40 derived from Taiwan's reliable imports of Iowa farm
41 products, which in 2013 totaled \$63.5 million for food
42 manufactures and agricultural products combined; and

43 WHEREAS, Taiwan should be included in regional
44 economic integration based on its status as the world's
45 19th largest economy, 20th largest exporter, and 18th
46 largest importer, according to a 2013 World Trade
47 Organization report; and also due to its status as an
48 important economic power, a dynamic market economy, and
49 leading supplier of high-tech products; and

50 WHEREAS, Taiwan ranks as the 17th most free economy

1 in the world according to the 2014 Index of Economic
2 Freedom, and the 5th most free economy among 42
3 economies in the Asia-Pacific region ranked only behind

4 Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia, and New Zealand; and
5 WHEREAS, according to the Swiss-based International
6 Institute for Management Development's 2014 report,
7 Taiwan ranks as the 13th most competitive economy
8 worldwide and the 4th most competitive economy in the
9 Asian Pacific; and

10 WHEREAS, negotiations for a bilateral investment
11 agreement between Taiwan and the United States are an
12 important step toward further strengthening bilateral
13 trade and paving the way for entering into a free trade
14 agreement between our two nations, thereby increasing
15 the State of Iowa's exports to Taiwan and creating
16 bilateral investment and technical collaboration
17 through tariff reduction and other trade facilitation
18 measures; and

19 WHEREAS, Taiwan has been and can continue to be a
20 valuable and constructive partner in the international
21 response to the adverse effects of climate change and
22 severe weather emergencies as evidenced by its speedy
23 and generous response to aid the victims of Typhoon
24 Haiyan; NOW THEREFORE,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
26 That the House of Representatives reaffirms its
27 commitment to the strong and deepening sister-city and
28 sister-state relationships between Taiwan and the State
29 of Iowa, its support for Taiwan's efforts to secure the
30 signing of a bilateral investment agreement with the
31 United States, and its support for Taiwan's appropriate
32 participation in international organizations that
33 impact Taiwan's health, safety, and well-being; and

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the
35 House of Representatives is hereby directed to send
36 a copy of this Resolution to United States Secretary
37 of State John F. Kerry, President Ma Ying-jeou of
38 the Republic of China (Taiwan), Executive Secretary
39 Christiana Figueres of the United Nations Framework
40 Convention on Climate Change, and the Taipei Economic
41 and Cultural Office in Chicago, Illinois.>

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